

**General  
Information**

Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge contains approximately 152,000 acres, most of which are open to hunting. There are more than 150 miles of old logging roads which provide difficult access, even for hunters with 4-wheeled drive vehicles. In the center of the refuge is the Dare County Range, a 46,000-acre military practice area owned by the U.S. Air Force and used by both the Air Force and the U.S. Navy. The Range is a part of the North Carolina Gamelands Program and governed by Gamelands rules and regulations.

Alligator River is a popular hunting area for local residents who have grown to know the area and its unique habitat. For newcomers to the Refuge, the impenetrable vegetation and remoteness often catch them unaware. First time users should consult with a Refuge staff member or another hunter.

White-tailed deer is the primary species hunted. Alligator River is the only refuge in the National Wildlife Refuge System that allows the use of chase dogs to hunt deer. About half the Refuge is open to this type of hunting. Hunting small game and waterfowl is also permitted. However, the majority of local waterfowl hunting occurs on the sounds and rivers surrounding the Refuge.

**Regulations**

All general refuge regulations apply, unless specifically addressed in this leaflet. Restrictions and designations on the map in this leaflet also apply. Public hunting is permitted in accordance with all state laws, county codes, Title 50 - Code of Federal Regulations, and the following Refuge regulations:

Permits are required for all hunts.

The Refuge is open daylight hours only. Hunter access is allowed from

one hour before until one hour after legal shooting hours.

Firearms are prohibited on the Refuge unless they are unloaded and dismantled or encased. When participating in a hunting activity, firearms are permitted but must be unloaded while being transported by a vehicle or boat under power. (Loaded is defined as having rounds in the chamber or magazine or a cap on a muzzle-loading firearm.). A loaded firearm in the passenger compartment of a vehicle is prohibited.

When taking any game animal with a shotgun, federally approved, non-toxic shot must be used (except buckshot or slugs for white-tailed deer). Possessing lead shot in the field is prohibited, except when engaged in deer hunting.

The use or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting is prohibited.

The taking or possession of bear or turkey, or any part thereof, except when transporting same along a State road is prohibited.

Taking or collecting any plant or animal (including snakes) is prohibited, except as specifically authorized by the Refuge.

The use of artificial lights (including car headlights) to locate, observe, or take animals is prohibited, except as specifically authorized by the Refuge.

Baiting or feeding wildlife and hunting with the aid of bait are prohibited.

The use of dogs is restricted to designated areas (see map). All dogs must be confined or leashed and under owner control when not engaged in hunting.

Vehicular access is restricted to designated roads (see map). ATV's (3 and 4 wheelers, dirt bikes, etc.) are prohibited.

Camping, fires, littering, target practice, and commercial guiding are prohibited.

The construction or use of permanent blinds, platforms, and/or ladders is prohibited. Hunting from a tree into which a metal object has been driven is prohibited.

The training of dogs is permitted only during the corresponding hunting seasons.

When unarmed, hunters may walk on closed roads in the farming area or on the roads in the "no dog hunting" area to retrieve their stray hunting dogs.

Youth hunters (ages 15 and under) must have successfully passed a State-approved hunter education course and must carry proof of certification. Youth hunters must be directly supervised by an adult (21 or older). For small game hunting, an adult may supervise up to two youth hunters; for big game, an adult may supervise only one youth hunter.

Hunters using the Refuge are subject to inspections of permits, licenses, hunting equipment, bag limits, vehicles, and their contents by Refuge or State law enforcement officers.

The farming area is closed to waterfowl hunting year round.

Disturbing, molesting or interfering with any person engaged in the pursuit of an authorized activity on the Refuge is prohibited.

**Game Animals**

Only the following species may be hunted: ducks, geese, swans, coots, quail, mourning doves, snipe,

woodcock, rabbits, squirrels, opossums\*, raccoons\*, and deer in accordance with Federal, State, and local regulations.

\*Legal hunting hours for raccoons and opossums are from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset, unless authorized by Refuge Special Use Permit.

If you have questions as to the advisability or legality of any activity, consult the Refuge Manager before participating in that activity.

### **Permits**

When the permit on the front cover of this leaflet is signed and on your person, it serves as a permit for all 1999-2000 hunts on Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge. Effective dates of this permit are September 1, 1999 - June 30, 2000.

### **Fishing**

Sport fishing is allowed on any open area of the Refuge in accordance with State and Federal regulations and requires a valid State fishing license.

Only the use of pole and line, rod and reel, or cast net is permitted.

### **Opportunities for the Disabled**

Hunting and fishing opportunities for disabled individuals are available on Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge. Disabled persons may contact the Refuge office prior to their arrival if special arrangements are needed.

### **For additional information, write or call**

Refuge Manager  
Alligator River NWR  
P.O. Box 1969  
Manteo, North Carolina 27954  
252/473 1131

email: [alligator-river@outer-banks.com](mailto:alligator-river@outer-banks.com)

Hunting information may also be obtained from <http://www.fws.gov/r4all>

To report wildlife violations, call 1/800/662 7137



**The Blue Goose is the traditional symbol for the National Wildlife Refuge System**

**Alligator River  
National Wildlife Refuge  
P.O. Box 1969  
Manteo, North Carolina 27954  
252/473 1131  
<http://www.fws.gov/r4all>  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
1 800/344 WILD**

**July 1999**



**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**

# **Alligator River**

## *National Wildlife Refuge Hunting Regulations & Permit 1999-2000*



### **1999-2000 Refuge Hunting Permit Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(please print)

I have read and understand the refuge hunting regulations contained in this leaflet.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

This permit must be signed and carried on your person and is only valid from September 1, 1999 - June 30, 2000.